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Bulletin Economique.

HANOI BULLETIN REPORTS FLOOD DAMAGE  
FAMINE IN NORTH CHINA AREAS

FLOODS AND FAMINE IN KWANGSI -- Hanoi, Bulletin Economique, 19 Sep 51

An article with a Hong Kong date line, released by the Viet Nam Press Agency, reports that Central China and the Hong Kong region appear to be threatened by floods. According to the article, which quotes the Hsin-hua News Agency, numerous workers have been drafted to reinforce the dikes. In Kwangsi, where a typhoon raged last year, the population is forced to eat herbs and tree leaves, since all roots have already been eaten, according to the Vietnamese agency.

FLOODS IN NORTHEAST AND NORTH CHINA -- Hanoi, Bulletin Economique, 19 Sep 51

An article with a Hong Kong date line, released by the Viet Nam Press Agency, reports that floods in the Northeast have hit the K'ai-yuan -- T'ieh-ling region along the Mukden -- Ch'ang-ch'un railway, where there are important food bases supplying Chinese troops fighting in Korea.

According to the same report, torrential rains have caused the Liao Ho to overflow to the extent of some 12 kilometers. It is reported that the river is now subsiding.

NEW FAMINE IN NORTH CHINA -- Hanoi, Bulletin Economique, 19 Sep 51

An article with a Hong Kong date line released by the Viet Nam Press Agency, reports that, according to Chinese newspapers and the Hsin-hua News Agency, large areas of North China were again threatened by famine last month. Much of the population in these areas has been homeless because floods have destroyed cottages as well as part of their harvest.

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According to press statements, floods have devastated the rural areas north of Mukden, where the Peiping government had to distribute 100,000 tons of food as well as evacuate a great number of people. The Yellow River flooded 700,000 hectares of sown land during August 1951, while new floods caused by the Yellow River and the Yangtze have also been reported. The extent of the damage is not known as yet.

The report concludes that a total of nearly 5 million hectares of land have been flooded. With the recession of the water, these areas are now potential centers for epidemics. Communist authorities are reported to estimate that more than 30 million peasants have suffered damages.

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